

April 26, 1999

Lyle Jaffe
Dockets Management
FDA/DHHS
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Jaffe:

As a consumer, I am writing to request that the FDA be aware that there are many citizens who are concerned about the innappropriate procedures being used in today's factory farms. I am saddened at the great loss of family farms in this country and dismayed at the techniques currently employed by agribusiness.

Specifically:

1. The practice of forced molting of laying hens is barbaric and cruel; please support the petition to ban forced molting (docket 98P-0203/CP)
2. The current practice of feeding cattle and other livestock the rendered protein from condemned and downed animals should be entirely banned. The Mad Cow disease (BSE) that plagued Britain as well as other diseases are linked to this disgusting way of obtaining feed. Please support the Downed Animal Protection Act (HR 453) and any legislation that furthers the discontinuance of using rendered animal products.
- ✓ 3. There also exists many areas of the dairy business which employ unsafe practices. The current use of recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (rBGH) is unnecessary and unhealthy for cows and has not been proven safe for humans. Monsanto's successful continued blockage of labeling for dairy products derived from animals given rBGH is obscene. The FDA exists to protect consumers, not agribusiness. As a consumer, I feel labeling for rBGH is totally appropriate.

Because of these types of practices, as well as many other inhumane and possibly unsafe methods used in factory farming, I am abstaining from meat, poultry and dairy products and am urging others to do the same. Any informed consumer would not knowingly continue to purchase food from companies that utilize such cruel and unnecessary practices.

Sincerely,

Kim Christensen

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98P-1194

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CROSS FILE SHEET

FILE NO: 98P-1194/C89

SEE FILE NO: 98P-0203/C1270

98P-0151/C2136